

# Salem Has Four Splendid Coordinated Advantages

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## They Are Its Colossal Stand of Commercial Timber, Water, Fertilizer Chemicals, Climate

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There is a combination of at least Four Compelling reasons why Marion county can always prosper, and Salem can grow beyond the limitations of the Resources that immediately surround it. Those four reasons are:

The Stupendous supply of Commercial Timber in Oregon.

The Colossal Aggregation of Water Powers, now largely wasting in the rivers of the state.

The near-by components of Fertilizers to maintain the High Productivity of the Lands of this county as well as of Oregon:

The Favorable Climatic Temperature.

### Oregon's Mighty Timber Supply

Those Resource Factors can be briefly considered together, because they co-ordinate closely for the prosperity of this city and county.

Timber and Iron are the Primary Fundamentals of Construction and Industry. Any locality that has an abundance of good Commercial Timber has the basis for economic home, factory and city building.

Such Timber can favorably support many forms of industrial production of which timber and lumber are necessary factors.

And all such manufacturing go hand in hand with the welfare of the Farms, as has been pointed out in previous articles.

When due allowance is made for diminution by logging, clearing and deterioration, there must now be 350,000,000,000 board feet of timber standing in the forests of Oregon. It has been semi-officially estimated that 12,000,000,000 feet are in economic proximity to Salem.

Probably at least 5,000,000,000 board feet exist in the forests of Marion county, 7,000,000,000 within the limits of Polk county, that joins Marion county on the west.

### Enough to Last for Generations

From those county forests alone, 100,000,000 feet could be cut yearly for nearly 120 years, even though reforestation of burned and logged-off areas were not reforested. Such restoration has now commenced, and doubtless will be continued increasingly.

The 350,000,000,000 board feet in Oregon could be reduced by logging at the rate of 5,000,000,000 feet per year for seventy years—until 1990—before it could be used up.

Its extinction must not be considered possible. Restoration must follow the logging on all non-tillable land.

Most of this timber west of the Cascade mountains is Douglas fir, spruce, hemlock, red and Port Orford cedar, sugar and yellow pine. Yellow pine predominates east of the Cascades.

### Also Mighty Water Powers

In close Economic-Industrial companionship with the state's magnificent forests, are its more than equally valuable potential Water Powers.

Its many rivers, all mountain-fed, possessed of rapid fall and narrow rock gorges for safe improvement, have an aggregate of hydro-electric energy equivalent to 3,441,437 horse-power. This is made up as follows:

|   | Horse Power |
|---|-------------|
| Undeveloped Projects, Investigated..... | 2,662,350   |
| Other Projects, Not Investigated.....   | 291,900     |
| Developed, and Partially Developed..... | 487,187     |

Total Readily Practicable.....3,441,437

The investigation was done by the state. Those Water Powers are stupendously valuable, one of the state's greatest assets. Fully developed they could run all the railroad trains, and street cars in Oregon and Washington, and should do so as soon as possible.

They could supply power to all the factories, farms and homes, and do all the heating and lighting. They would be prodigiously useful and economical if properly organized.

### Powers Are Splendidly Valuable

The rentals on the 3,441,437 horse powers (1,147,146 kilowatts) would be low at \$100 per horse power per year of twenty-four hour service. The yearly income based on such rentals would be \$344,143,700, or ten per cent on \$3,441,437,000.

Those water powers are a mighty treasure to be guarded for the public interests.

It will require many years to improve even the investigated projects. It has been reported recently that projects involving 500,000 horse power on the Deschutes river, 800,000 horse power on the Columbia river at The Dalles, 250,000 horse power on the Columbia river at the Cascade Locks, 175,000 horse power at Priest Rapids on the Columbia, and other great undertakings in hydro-electric energy generation, will soon prepare for development under the Water Power Law recently enacted by congress, after more than twenty years of debate and maneuvering.

The licensing fees for leases of such powers will be distributed, 50 per cent to the reclamation fund in this region, 37 1-2 per cent to the state and 12 1-2 per cent to the government.

### Plenty of Power Near Salem

The powers above referred to are understood to all represent the yearly constant minimum. Great increase would be available during the flood stages, and still larger gains could be realized by impounding in vast reservoirs during flush-flowing periods.

There is all the power—mostly potential—in Marion county, or in easy wiring distance, that can be used here. Such wiring would be practicable from every stream westward from and including the Deschutes river, about 100 miles eastward, or even farther away.

The potential energy in the McKenzie river, that borders Marion county on the south, is 200,000 horse power. North fork of the Santiam, 100,000 horsepower; Rogue river, 320,000 horsepower; and many other smaller powers. It is safe to say immense horsepower can be developed within about 75 miles of Salem, a great deal of it much nearer.

Cleveland, Ohio, made \$346,647,000 (about \$700,000,000 at present prices) of manufacture in 1914 with 277,066 primary horse power. Minneapolis, Minn., used 109,020 primary horse power to create \$184,284,000 (now worth \$368,568,000) of manufactures the same year, and Portland, Oregon, 36,185 primary horse power to make \$55,510,000 (now worth \$111,220,000) in value of its various industrial products.

### Has Great Fertilizer Resources

Evidently 700,000 horse power will not be needed in all the Willamette valley for many years to come, unless, possibly, all the steam railroads are added to the demand. Even then there will be 1,500,000 or more horse power to draw on at only little greater distances, without using flood stages or reservoirs.

It will be many years before Oregon can develop all its water powers, and find use for all their energy.

An exceeding valuable employment for some of this hydro-electric energy will be to manufacture nitrates for farm fertilization. If the vigorous productivity of the Land is to be maintained, the exhaustion of plant food must be constantly restored.

Oregon is peculiarly fortunate again in its restoration supplies. With the abundant water powers, nitrogen can be made by "fixation of atmospheric nitrogen in the electric furnace. It is said that there is enough nitrogen in the air over one square mile of the earth's surface to supply the world for fifty years."

### Great Fertilizer Expense Abroad

Before the World War, American farmers paid \$48,830,000 for nitrogenous fertilizers, mainly from Chili; \$20,450,000 to Germany for Potash salts and \$56,000,000 for phosphates. That combined expense would now be around \$125,280,000 at 1915 prices, or \$250,560,000 at present valuations.

It is known that the potash can be made from the giant kelp, found in great abundance along the ocean coast of Oregon and Washington, and immense deposits of phosphates exist in Idaho and Montana, ship loads of which are now being exported to Japan.

Here, then, Marion county has the splendid co-ordination of Billions of board feet of timber in and near its boundaries, for sale and manufacture.

### Great Combination of Advantages

It has almost unlimited water power with which to create many forms of wood and other manufactures. When wood and coal for fuel become scarce and almost prohibitive by high cost in the future, the abundant hydro-electric energy will give this region predominating economic advantages.

With such power and the local ingredients, it can perpetually maintain a very high producing power in its Lands, which in turn will provide support for a big population, and abundant Buying Power for the Factories.

And those Factories, as well as the homes and crops, can thrive more favorably and at less cost, because of the comparatively mild winter climate of this valley.

Certainly, this city and county have some of the most advantageous combinations of conditions to be found in America. They have not all been mentioned in these Publicity discussions, not be several leagues, at any place in the World having as many should blush to murmur!

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